

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 have been canceled, claims 9, 16 and 17 have been amended and new claims 20-29 have been added. No claims have been canceled by way of this response. Thus, claims 9-29 are currently pending and presented for examination. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Response to Objections:

The Examiner has objected to the abstract, because of being more than 150 words. Applicant has amended the Abstract to overcome the objection and respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection. Applicant submits the abstract on a separate sheet as requested.

The Examiner has objected to the specification for referring to limitations that are cancelled. Applicant has amended the specification to overcome the objection and respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraws the objection. Applicant submitted a marked up version and a clean version of the specification as indicated on the return receipt postcard stamped by the USPTO on March 23, 2006. Applicant submit's again the marked up version and the clean version of the specification which was received by the USPTO March 23, 2006. Furthermore Applicant submits a new marked up and clean version of the specification based on the clean version submitted March 23, 2006.

The Examiner has objected to claim 9, line 4 for a spelling error. Applicant has corrected the error and respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the objection.

Response to Rejections Under Section 102:

Claims 9-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C § 102(b), the Examiner contending that these claims are anticipated by Tapperson et al. (USPN 5,682,476).

Applicant respectfully disagrees with all this rejections. Applicant has amended claim 9 and 16 to more clearly distinguish over the prior art.

The Examiner assumes Tapperson teaches a wireless port establishes a connection to a hardwire H1 fieldbus port and by citing column 6, lines 62-67.

Applicant's Claim 9 recites:

second cable end having a cable end coupling interface for establishing a wireless proximity connection via the second cable end to the field device coupling interface

In contrast, Tapperson et al. teaches the use of a wiring, as shown above. The claimed wireless connection, wherein a cable end has a coupling interface for a wireless connection is neither disclosed nor suggested by the Tapperson reference. Tapperson et al. merely discloses the use of a wireless fieldbus port, which is connected to the fieldbus using a wire connection:

Another novel feature of the present invention is that the wireless fieldbus port attached to each field device is powered by the hardwired H1 Fieldbus port attached to each device. Since the wireless Fieldbus link of the field devices is powered by the existing H1 fieldbus control network, no additional wiring is required.

Tapperson et al. does not disclose or suggest that an end of a wire has any use in a wireless proximity connection. In contrast Fig. 2 of Tapperson et al. shows only antennas for propagation for wireless far field connections. Proximity connections are not disclosed or suggested.

In view of the above, claim 9 is not anticipated by Tapperson et al. Furthermore, Claims 10-15 which depend on claim 9 are also patentable at least based on their dependence from claim 9 as well as based on their own merits. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the Section 102 rejections.

Applicant's Claim 16 recites:

*wherein the **wireless** proximity connection is configured to transmit to the field device **both the data and an operating power** sufficient for supporting the data transmission via the second cable end*

The Examiner has ignored the limitation that **both**, data and operating power are transmitted via the cable **wirelessly**. As discussed in connection with claim 9 Tapperson et al. does not disclose or suggest using a cable and for a wireless proximity connection. Tapperson et al. discloses merely wireless far field connections e.g. in Fig 2.

In view of the above, claim 16 is not anticipated by Tapperson et al. Furthermore, Claim 17 which depends on claim 9 is also patentable at least based on its dependence from claim 16 as well as based on its own merits. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the Section 102 rejections.

Applicant's Claim 18 recites:

*the **second cable end** having a cable end coupling interface for establishing the **wireless** proximity connection to the field device via the field device coupling interface, wherein the wireless proximity connection is configured to transmit to the field device **both the data and an operating power** sufficient for supporting the data transmission*

At least based on the arguments made in respect to claim 9 and 16 claim 18 is also not anticipated by Tapperson et al. Furthermore, Claim 19 which depends on claim 18 is also patentable at least based on its dependence from claim 18 as well as based on its own merits. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the Section 102 rejections.

New Claims:


New claims further define the scope of the invention as described in the specification and drawings. In view of the foregoing remarks regarding the other claims, Applicant respectfully submits claims 20-29 are patentable and requests allowance of claims 9-29.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the objections and rejections set forth in the outstanding Office Action are inapplicable to the present claims. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the objections and rejections and timely pass the application to allowance. Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this paper. The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper, including fees for additional claims and terminal disclaimer fee, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

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